

Howard County's Local Children's Board
Meeting Minutes
11/21/17

Attendees

√	Maura Rossman, HD		Bitia Dayhoff, CAC (excused)	√	Charmayne Anderson, Community
√	Kelly Cimino, DHCD	√	Dawn Duignan, Community		Louis Valenti, MSDE (excused)
√	Karen Butler, DSS	√	Ann Gilligan, Library		Gary Gardner, HCPD
	Dario Broccolino, States Attorney	√	Tim Madden, DJS	√	Edisa Padder, Community
√	John Byrd, DRP		Jackie Scott, DCRS (excused)	√	Michael Martirano, HCPSS
√	Rachel Choo Quan, HCMHA	√	Erica Byrne, Voices for Children		

Staff: Kim Eisenreich, Kori Jones, Marsha Dawson, Sucora Best, Randi Norris

Public Attendees: Kim Oldham, State's Attorney Office; Kenyatta Cully, Mental Health Authority; Mike Demidenko, DSS; Hector Garcia, FIRN; Melissa Rosenberg, Autism Society; Francine Trout, Workforce Development; Nancy Voight, DSS; James LeMon, HCPSS; Shawn Griffin and Maura Keany, Collaborative Communications Group; Khiem Doan, Voices for Change; Chisha Johnson, Jacaranda Center; Jahantab Siddiqui, HCPSS

Meeting was called to order at 9:05 a.m.

Welcome and introductions were made.

Khiem Doan, new student board member rep from Voices for Change introduced himself and gave a little background. Melissa Rosenberg, Autism Society and Hector Garcia, FIRN will be officially confirmed on December 4th as new Board members.

Francine Trout, Office of Workforce Development will become an official board member in January after the County Code is updated to include her office.

Roll Call

Bitia Dayhoff, Jackie Scott, Lou Valenti - Excused

Consent Agenda

Approval of Consent Agenda - Motion made by Erica, Seconded by Charmayne; All approved.

- June 21, 2017 minutes

Discussion Items and Workgroup Updates

Executive Team Report – John

The Board is still conducting outreach to fill the faith community seat. Based on suggestions from board members, additional outreach included First Presbyterian Church and St. John the Evangelist. Both churches are known for their work with families, children, and immigrant population.

Motion to approve representation from both churches – Motion made by Dawn, Seconded by Charmayne; All approved.

Equity Update – John

In July, the LCB sought vendors to research the opportunity gap and the impact on children and youth in the county. The goal of the report is to increase public and agency awareness; extend the board's knowledge of understanding and consequences; as well as frame a positive discussion in providing a path for the success of all children. The report will culminate with a collective call to action.

Collaborative Communications Group was the selected vendor; they will partner with Rodia Inc., to implement some portions of the community engagement work. The work group will meet in December to kick-off the project.

Local Care Team Changes – Tim

Beginning on January 1, 2018, the Local Management Boards (LMBs) will again serve as the administrative home for Local Care Teams. Parents, family members or agencies will be able to make referrals directly to the LCT to seek assistance with accessing services, developing plans of care for community based services, and to coordinate services from multiple agencies.

Families of children at risk of out-of-home or out-of-state placement, with complex needs/or who are in crisis will continue to be identified as priorities for the LCT.

NOFA Process – John

The Notice of Funding Availability (NOFA) is the annual state application to the Governor's Office for Children, we anticipate the base funding \$448,049 remaining the same. It is typically released the last week of December and is due mid-April. Kim reviewed programs that were funded by the NOFA last year. The Executive Team is recommending the creation of an ad hoc committee to work on the FY19 NOFA that will include a minimum of six members (3 public and 3 private). The group will decide when and how often to meet.

- Charmayne has volunteered to serve as part of the committee, other interested members should contact Marsha or Kim.

Motion to approve ad hoc NOFA committee – Motion made by Tim, Seconded by Erica; All Approved.

Programmatic Updates

Choice Program – Tim

The Choice Program builds on youth strengths to ensure success with educational and vocational goals. In Howard County the program provides intensive case management and serves youth ages 8 to 24. Priority is given to youth who are not employed or in school. Choice is in the process of increasing staff, developing a MOU with HCPSS, and increasing partnerships with Workforce Development and DJS. Since last month, DJS has referred 15 youth; using the program as a diversion resource. See Program Update for more information.

Building Youth Resiliency – Dawn

The program provides case management, referrals, rapid access to mental health services and clinicians for youth ages 5 to 25; so far 12 youth have received services. At the last mental health work group meeting, Grassroots, the police department and hospital joined to share information about the Mobile Crisis Team (MCT) and the hospitals approach to child mental health, and clarify the process, as well as potential areas of opportunity for LCB's priority areas with MCT and/or the hospital. Humanim reported a cut in wait time for children receiving psychiatric services; wait time down from 6 months to 9 days. See Committee Report for more information.

- Dr. Martirano expressed an interest and commitment in supporting this work as he is seeing a rise in mental health manifestation in younger children. It is his goal to have dedicated social workers high schools as well as psychologist and trained counselors to address areas of concern.

Healthy Families – Dawn

A program funded through MSDE, it is a voluntary program that offers home visits, community resources, and personalized supports to first-time mothers in Howard County; 74 families are receiving services at this time with 12 more new referrals. The administration of the program has transitioned from Howard County General Hospital to Family and Children Services. See Program Update for more information.

- Maura requested target and capacity measure information on programs; this will help with funding opportunities.
- Edisa expressed concerns regarding collaboration between physicians due to HIPPA laws. Would like to advocate for a Forum to provide professional training on medication management and resources. Program at Hopkins called BHIPP (Behavioral Health Integration in Pediatric Primary Care).
 - Supports efforts of primary care providers in assessing and managing mental health concerns in their patients.
- Next Mental Health Committee; Friday, December 8th at 10:00 – Gateway #303.

Communications Planning Process – Collaborative Communications Group

Shawn Griffin provided an overview of the draft messaging developed based on feedback from board members, a Core Message, Three Key Messages, and Support Points. The Core Statement: All children, youth, and families in Howard County have the right to succeed, regardless of zip code, ethnicity, or income level. The Local Children's Board facilitates a collaborative approach to providing children, youth, and families the supports they need to grow and thrive.

The goal is to come up with a tight set of messages that everyone can use to advocate and educate people to the work of the LCB. Shawn and Maura role played how board members could use messages and took group feedback afterwards.

Shawn walked the group through the Key Messages, Support Points, and discussed what resonated with committee members the most. She provided the group with an updated timeline and asked Board members to examine the latest iteration and provide feedback with a markup of the statements that resonate.

Learning Agenda

Child Protective Services, Department of Social Services – Nancy Voight

Nancy Voight provided an overview of child protective services reviewing that health practitioners, educators, human service workers, and police officers are all mandated reporters. She defined child abuse and neglect as it relates to an act by a caretaker, family member or household member (assault considered by unrelated person not caring for a child is handled by the police) as well as what is not considered child abuse or neglect. Nancy reviewed Investigative Response (IR) versus Alternative Response (AR). See Presentation Slides for more information or contact Nancy at (410) 872-8806.

Superintendent of Howard County Public Schools – Dr. Martirano

Dr. Martirano provided an overview of his background and how he came to become the Interim Superintendent. He believes it's time for communities to come together with the school system repairing and building bridges. Calling on great leaders to galvanize and provide support to our kids; provide visibility to the invisible. He challenged the Board to examine where we want to put our efforts with a level of focus and a collaborative voice. His plan is to hire social workers, school psychologists, counselors and nurses.

Announcements

- 2018 Board meetings will move to the Health Department in Barton Rooms – enter through the front door of Ascend One building.
- John thanked Hector, Fran, Ann, and Melissa for attending.

Meeting Adjourned at 11:05

Next Meeting: Tuesday, January 16, 2018 at the Health Department – Barton Rooms